

SERIAL NO. 10/065,743
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 201-1378

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims provided herein shall replace all prior versions and listings of the pending claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended) An assembly for housing an electrical energy storage device of a vehicle electrical system, comprising:
 - a support structure disposed within a ~~vehicle~~ passenger compartment of the vehicle for supporting the electrical energy storage device;
 - a combined housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said support structure and the electrical energy storage device, said combined housing/console structure comprising at least one ventilation opening for venting heat generated by said electrical energy storage device; and
 - a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said electrical energy storage device without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle.
3. (previously amended) The assembly according to claim 2, wherein said combined housing/console structure comprises at least one console feature.
4. (previously amended) The assembly according to claim 2, wherein said housing cover comprises at least one ventilation opening.

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5. (currently amended) An assembly for housing an electrical energy storage device of a vehicle electrical system, comprising:

a support structure disposed within a vehicle passenger compartment of the vehicle for supporting the electrical energy storage device;

a combined housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said support structure and the electrical energy storage device; and

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said electrical energy storage device without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle, and wherein said housing cover comprises a storage compartment.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The assembly according to claim 2, wherein said housing cover is completely detachable from said housing/console structure.

8. (currently amended) An assembly for housing an electrical energy storage device of a vehicle electrical system, comprising:

a support structure disposed within a vehicle passenger compartment of the vehicle for supporting the electrical energy storage device;

a combined housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said support structure and the electrical energy storage device; and

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a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said electrical energy storage device without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle, and wherein said housing cover is fixedly attached to and in cooperation with said housing/console structure on one side such that said housing cover can be lifted and swung off said housing/console structure to form an accessory support structure.

9. (previously amended) The assembly according to claim 2, further comprising means for affixing said housing cover to said combined housing/console structure.

10. (previously amended) An assembly for housing an electrical energy storage device of a vehicle electrical system, comprising:

a support structure disposed within a ~~vehicle~~ passenger compartment of the vehicle for supporting the electrical energy storage device;

a combined housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said support structure and the electrical energy storage device; and

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said electrical energy storage device without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle; and

accessory support means attached to said housing/console structure.

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11. (previously amended) An assembly for housing an electrical energy storage device of a vehicle electrical system, comprising:

a support structure disposed within a ~~vehicle~~ passenger compartment of the vehicle for supporting the electrical energy storage device;

a combined housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said support structure and the electrical energy storage device; and

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to the combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said electrical energy storage device without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle; and

accessory support means attached to said housing cover.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) ~~An automobile~~ A battery housing assembly for an electrically-powered vehicle, comprising:

a battery support structure disposed within a passenger compartment of ~~an automobile~~ the vehicle;

at least one battery unit mounted on said battery support structure, said battery unit being used at least in part as a source of power to propel the vehicle;

a combined battery housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said battery support structure and ~~said at least one battery unit~~, said combined battery housing/console structure at least one ventilation opening for venting heat generated by said battery unit; and

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for

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allowing access to said battery unit without detachment or
disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle.

14. (previously amended) The battery housing assembly according to claim 13, wherein said combined battery housing/console structure comprises at least one console feature.

15. (previously amended) The battery housing assembly according to claim 13, wherein said housing cover comprises at least one ventilation opening.

16. (currently amended) ~~An automobile~~ A battery housing assembly for an electrically-powered vehicle, comprising:

a battery support structure disposed within a passenger compartment of an automobile;

at least one battery unit mounted on said battery support structure, said battery unit being used at least in part as a source of power to propel the vehicle;

a combined battery housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said battery support structure and ~~said at least one~~ battery unit; and

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said battery unit without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle, wherein said housing cover comprises a storage compartment.

17. (canceled)

18. (previously amended) The battery housing assembly according to claim 13, wherein said housing cover is

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detachable from said combined battery housing/console structure.

19. (currently amended) ~~An automobile~~ A battery housing assembly for an electrically-powered vehicle, comprising:

a battery support structure disposed within a passenger compartment of an automobile;

at least one battery unit mounted on said battery support structure, said battery unit being used at least in part as a source of power to propel the vehicle;

a combined battery housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said battery support structure and ~~said at least one battery unit;~~ and

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said battery unit without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle, wherein said housing cover is fixedly attached to and in cooperation with said combined battery housing/console structure on one side such that said housing cover can be lifted and swung off said combined battery housing/console structure to form an accessory support structure.

20. (previously amended) The battery housing assembly according to claim 13, further comprising means for affixing said housing cover to said combined battery housing/console structure.

21. (currently amended) ~~An automobile~~ A battery housing assembly for an electrically-powered vehicle, comprising:

a battery support structure disposed within a passenger compartment of an automobile;

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at least one battery unit mounted on said battery support structure, said battery unit being used at least in part as a source of power to propel the vehicle;

a combined battery housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said battery support structure and ~~said at least one battery unit;~~

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said battery unit without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle; and

accessory support means attached to said housing/console structure.

22. (currently amended) ~~An automobile~~ A battery housing assembly for an electrically-powered vehicle, comprising:

a battery support structure disposed within a passenger compartment of an automobile;

at least one battery unit mounted on said battery support structure, said battery unit being used at least in part as a source of power to propel the vehicle;

a combined battery housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said battery support structure and ~~said at least one battery unit;~~

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, ~~for mounting on said combined housing/console structure~~ removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said electrical energy storage device without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle; and

accessory support means attached to said housing cover.

23. (currently amended) An automobile having dual battery systems, comprising:

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a battery support structure arranged within a passenger compartment of the automobile, said battery support structure being disposed between seats inside the passenger compartment;

at least one battery unit corresponding to one of said battery systems mounted on said battery support structure, said battery unit being used at least in part as a source of power to propel the automobile;

a combined battery housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said battery support structure and said ~~at least one~~ battery unit; and

a housing cover, having at least one console featurestructure removably attached to said combined housing/support structure for allowing access to said battery unit without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle.

24. (original)

25. (original)

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)

28. (canceled)

Please add the following new claim:

29. (previously added) The automobile according to claim 23, wherein said battery support structure is placed between first row seats inside the passenger compartment.

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30. (new) The automobile according to claim 23, wherein said battery support structure is placed between intermediate row seats inside the passenger compartment.

31. (new) The automobile according to claim 23, wherein said battery support structure is placed between rear row seats inside the passenger compartment.

32. (new) An assembly for housing an electrical energy storage device within a vehicle, comprising:

a support structure disposed within a passenger compartment of the vehicle for supporting the electrical energy storage device;

a combined housing/console structure for concealing, at least partially, said support structure and the electrical energy storage device; and

a housing cover, having at least one console feature, removably attached to said combined housing/support structure, for allowing access to said electrical energy storage device without detachment or disengagement of said support structure from the vehicle.

33. (new) The assembly according to claim 32, wherein said combined housing/console structure comprises at least one console feature.

34. (new) The assembly according to claim 32, wherein said combined housing/console structure comprises at least one ventilation opening for venting heat generated by the electrical energy storage device.

35. (new) The assembly according to claim 32, wherein said housing cover comprises at least one ventilation opening.

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36. (new) The assembly according to claim 32, wherein said housing cover is completely detachable from said housing/console structure.